

MAR 13 2015

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COLLEGE OF TROPICAL
AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES TO ESTABLISH A SALTWATER
AQUACULTURE PARK AT THE WAIALEE LIVESTOCK EXPERIMENT
STATION.

1 WHEREAS, saltwater aquaponics is a proposed isolated fish-
2 rearing system that is similar to standard aquaponics, except
3 that it uses bivalves, crustaceans, algae, or plankton to
4 process the waste from saltwater fish; and

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6 WHEREAS, saltwater aquaponics is meant to eliminate the
7 stresses that are put on local fisheries and environments by
8 conventional fish farming practices; and

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10 WHEREAS, globally, saltwater aquaponic, aquaculture, and
11 marine agriculture parks have been established; and

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13 WHEREAS, Mote Aquaculture Park in Florida, Cawthron
14 Aquaculture Park in New Zealand, and the Gulf of Mexico Marine
15 Aquaculture Park in Mississippi farm a variety of products
16 including fish, shellfish, and algae; and

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18 WHEREAS, saltwater farming addresses the severe lack of
19 freshwater and undesirable soil conditions for agricultural
20 activities in coastal regions; and

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22 WHEREAS, saltwater, instead of freshwater, can be used to
23 directly support a wide range of sustainable agricultural
24 activities and enrich the soils in the coastal regions; and

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26 WHEREAS, food production consumes a large body of
27 freshwater, and the lack of freshwater in Hawaii poses a grave
28 challenge to food security; and

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30 WHEREAS, saltwater provides one option directly addressing
31 this problem by proposing a radically different method of
32 agriculture that does not depend on freshwater and thus relieves
33 the existing strain on current freshwater supplies; and
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WHEREAS, tourism is Hawaii's largest industry, and visitors are increasingly looking for personal experiences during their stay; and

WHEREAS, tourism offers farmers a way to diversify income; and

WHEREAS, other states have linked their tourism industry with mariculture, one example being Maine which has a \$8 million tourism industry; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, that the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources is requested to establish a saltwater aquaculture park at the Waialeale Livestock Experiment Station; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources and the aquaculture park tenants are requested to integrate tourism into their mariculture operations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Dean of the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

OFFERED BY:

David L. Loo

Will Loo

Will Loo

Joanna Chun Oakland

Bruce Loo
D.C. Loo

Dan H. Loo

SP Loo

Michelle Loo

Clarence L. Loo

Ima Loo

Will Loo

Will Loo

